



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

November 30, 2021

The Honorable Phil Murphy
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Governor Murphy:

I am grateful for your assistance earlier this year to help me and our local communities identify Member Designated Project (MDPs) requests through the House surface transportation reauthorization process. I also worked closely with our state, county, and local officials to highlight their priorities. As we celebrate the historic, recently-signed Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill, I would urge the state, to the maximum extent possible, to invest the resources we will receive from Washington in the MDP requests detailed below. These projects range from a culvert replacement for the Lackawanna Cut-off in Andover Township to a bicycle and pedestrian bridge in Ringwood. My office's MDP requests have also secured the backing of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the full House of Representatives, which voted to approve them on July 1, 2021.

Beyond the specific MDP requests referenced here, I look forward to working with you and your team to identify additional projects in the Fifth District and direct the resources our State will receive: 1) to help fix our crumbling local, county, and state roads, bridges, and tunnels, including the Gateway Tunnel; 2) to make necessary repairs and investment in NJ TRANSIT; 3) to help remove lead and forever chemicals from our drinking water; 4) to invest in storm resiliency, ports and airports, bike trails, and electric school buses and vehicle infrastructure; and, 5) to connect the unconnected with broadband.

New Jersey families stand to benefit immensely from the unprecedented investments in infrastructure in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill, which is a huge win for New Jersey families and small businesses. It will help our State with much-needed repairs and investments, and will help create nearly two million jobs a year for the next decade.

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill also provides a generational investment in our nation's infrastructure. Thank you for your continued partnership as we claw back federal resources from Washington to New Jersey and make these historic infrastructure investments on behalf of our hard-working families and small businesses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Gottheimer".

Josh Gottheimer
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Full list of Rep. Gottheimer Member Designated Project (MDP) requests:
(alphabetical order)

Project Name: Hackettstown Mobility Improvement Project

Project Sponsor: New Jersey Department of Transportation

Location of Project: Route 46 and East Avenue, Hackettstown,
New Jersey, 07840

Description of the Project: This project will help relieve congestion at four intersections located on a congested commuter corridor in Warren County. Substandard ADA features at each intersection will also be upgraded. US 46 and East Ave. - Curb radius will be widened on the Southeast quadrant of the intersection. Revised signal phasing will provide a right turn overlap phase for the Northbound East Ave. approach right turn movement onto US 46. US 46 and NJ 182 (Mountain Ave.)/Willow Grove St./Warren St. - Traffic signals will be retimed. US 46 and High Street/Grand Ave. - Realign the High St. Southbound approach to improve traffic flow. NJ 57 and NJ 182 - Will be reconfigured to allow a left turn lane and a shared left/through/right turn lane on the Eastbound NJ 57 approach to the intersection.

Cost of Project: \$5,890,000

Federal Request: \$4,712,000

Project Name: Lackawanna Cut-off Culvert Replacement

Project Sponsor: New Jersey Transit

Location of Project: 300 Roseville Road, Byram, NJ, 07821 (this is a mailing address, physical location is in Andover Township)

Project Description: NJ TRANSIT is requesting \$1,600,000 in federal assistance for the New Jersey-Pennsylvania Lackawanna Cut-off Culvert Relocation project. The Lackawanna Cutoff is a single-track commuter rail line with passing sidings between Scranton, Pennsylvania and Port Morris, New Jersey where it would connect with NJ TRANSIT's Montclair and Boonton/Morristown Line. The 60 miles in Pennsylvania is currently being used for freight service. The 28-mile stretch from the Delaware River Bridge to Port Morris, over the Lackawanna Cut-off, is currently abandoned. Train service will operate over the 45 miles from Port Morris to Hoboken and serve New Jersey rail stations.

This project includes engineering, environmental, and construction associated with the project and related appurtenance. The work to be performed includes but is not limited to replacing two culverts – one at Hudson Farm and the second at Junction Brook along the project alignment.

Cost of Project: \$3.2 million

Federal Request: \$1.6 million

Project Name: Patriots Way Bridge Superstructure Replacement

Project Sponsor: Borough of Oakland, New Jersey

Location of Project: Patriots Way, Oakland, NJ, 07436

Project Description: The Patriots Way Bridge is a multi-span structure over the Ramapo River, which is an interstate waterway, and the bridge is the primary entrance and exit to over 400 homes. Although

it was constructed in the 1990's, the structural steel has significantly degraded already. A 10-ton weight restriction was placed on the bridge several years ago, and after further deterioration, the bridge was closed for two and a half months until the New Jersey Department of Transportation made emergency repairs. The repairs are temporary in nature, and it is only a matter of time until the bridge needs to be shut down again unless the superstructure is replaced. The weight limit and closure affected many aspects of the quality of life for the residents of the Ramapo River Reserve, including but not limited to garbage and recycling collection, school transportation for children, emergency response, and delivery services. The only other access routes are for emergency ingress and egress. This request would replace the superstructure of the Patriots Way Bridge.

Cost of Project: \$5,368,000

Federal Request: \$4,184,830

Project Name: Skyline Drive Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge

Project Sponsor: County of Passaic, New Jersey

Location of Project: Skyline Drive and Erskine Road, Ringwood, New Jersey, 07456

Description of the Project: The County of Passaic proposes building a pedestrian bridge parallel to an existing vehicle bridge over Erskine Brook along Skyline Drive (CR 511) near the intersection with Erskine Road in the Borough of Ringwood, NJ. The existing vehicular bridge does not provide sufficient width to provide a sidewalk or even shoulder between the Erskine Road community and major points of interest to the east including a NJ Transit park-and-ride facility as well as the main business district for the Borough of Ringwood. In addition to linking local residents to important economic development opportunities, the bridge would link the proposed Highlands rail Trail effort being led by Passaic County. The first two phases of the project to the south in Wanaque are underway and the section in Ringwood will be the next phase coming into focus. The bridge would provide a vital link to the regional recreational opportunities of the Highlands Rail Trail as well as the ecotourism connection to the business district and transit hub mentioned earlier. The Highlands Rail Trail has been funded through several federal transportation funding sources and is a regional project of significance to support active recreation, expand the transportation in a rural area, and provide ecotourism and job creation if allowed to connect to the Ringwood downtown with this critical link.

Cost of Project: \$1,080,000

Federal Request: \$800,000

Project Name: Sussex County Guide Rail Upgrade Program

Project Sponsor: Sussex County, New Jersey

Project Location: County Road 565: From Pelletown Road to to County Road 639, Frankford and Wantage Townships, NJ, 07822 and 07461.

Description of the Project: Remove and replace damaged, substandard, and/or outdated guide rail systems throughout CR-565 from Pelletown Rd to CR-628/CR-639 (Frankford and Wantage Townships).

Cost of Project: \$1,250,000

Federal Request: \$1,000,000

Project Name: Teaneck Pedestrian Overpass Project

Project Sponsor: Township of Teaneck, New Jersey

Location of Project: Windsor Road and Forest Avenue, (western side of proposed bridge), Palisade Avenue and Milton Votey Park (eastern side of proposed bridge), Teaneck NJ, 07666

Description of the Project: This project involves the reconstruction of heavily used pedestrian overpass bridge that crosses the CSX Railroad tracks. This piece of infrastructure needs much needed Reconstruction/Replacement. The pedestrian overpass bridge is not ADA accessible. The new structure shall be ADA accessible. This pedestrian bridge is more than 50 years old. It serves as our main artery for school children to safely cross over the railroad tracks in order to get to and from Benjamin Franklin Junior High School, as well as Votey Park. It is heavily used by many residents young and old.

Cost of Project: \$5,000,000

Federal Request: \$4,000,000

Project Name: West Milford Bikeway Connector Project

Project Sponsor: Township of West Milford

Location of Project: Westbrook Road - between Ridge Road and the Westbrook Park Teen Center, West Milford New Jersey, 07480

Description of the Project: Westbrook Road – Section 4 intends to connect the Westbrook Teen Center to the main bikeway (0.8 miles). The proposed bikeway expansion will provide for road widening, resurfacing and stormwater compliance upgrades as needed throughout the project along with pavement markings along the bike route. The extended bikeway will improve multimodal transportation along this portion of the Township's roadway infrastructure network in keeping with Complete Streets concepts.

Cost of Project: \$670,000

Federal Request: \$536,000